Research > Laboratory Safety

Laboratory Safety

Before stepping into a laboratory, a student or worker must be aware of all the possible hazards in their laboratory. There may be multiple categories of hazard present (physical, chemical, biohazardous, radiation) and all students/workers should be trained to work safely around these hazards.

IN CASE OF A CHEMICAL SPILL:

- Contact Waste Management Facility (306) 966-8497 -- Weekdays (8 AM - 4:30 PM)
- Contact Protective Services (306) 966-5555 -- Evenings / Weekends (24-Hour Dispatch)
- File an incident report after the spill has been dealt with.

Training

The following training is required for any person entering the laboratory.

- Laboratory Safety Training
  - Laboratory Safety Manual
- Site specific training
  - Local Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs)
  - Emergency Response Plan (ERP)
  - Orientation (Workplace hazards, equipment, safety equipment, First aid kit, proper waste disposal, etc.)
  - Generic workplace orientation checklist template

For assistance in developing a local training program, contact our Safety Management System team.

Requirements

Postings/signs/information - Outside the laboratory

- Contact names and numbers for the laboratory
- Approved signage to indicate the presence of hazardous activities in the laboratory:
  - Biohazard materials
  - Radioactive materials
  - Elevated noise levels
  - Personal protective equipment requirements
  - Warning signage for specific hazards

Postings/signs/information - Inside the laboratory

- Licences/permits(certifications issued by regulatory agencies
- University issued biosafety permits
- University issued nuclear substance permits
- Safety Data Sheets
- Emergency response posters
- Warning signs on equipment (e.g. flammable materials, lasers, microwaves, high voltage, pinch/crush hazards, etc.)

Safety equipment

The following equipment must be available and maintained:

- Personal protective equipment (PPE)
- Building fire safety systems (e.g. fire alarms, smoke alarms, sprinklers, exit signage)
- Fire extinguisher(s)
- Emergency eyewash and/or shower
- First aid kit
- Spill kit
Required Documentation
The maintenance of proper documentation shows due diligence.

- New student / employee orientation
- Student / employee training records (laboratory safety training certificate issued via email upon completion of training)
- Standard operating procedures
- Training log(s)
- Working alone or after hours plan
- Experiment / Research Workstation Sign
- Exit form

Posters / Resources / Information

- Chemical and Biological Safety Information
- Equipment or Area Release Form
- Eyewash Station Testing Log
- Fridge / Freezer Approval Request Form
- Guide for General Laboratory Spill Kit Contents
- Laboratory Design Guide
- Safety Shower Testing Procedure
- Facilities Decommissioning Standard
- Facility Decommissioning Certificate
- Proper Pipetting Guide and Calibration